

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 MC-02 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 INR-07 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - FJTATU:MFG

APPROVED BY EA/TB - GBROBERTS

PM/MC - JHATAWAY (DRAFT)

----- 117817

P 152116Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BCOM, MILI, TH

SUBJECT: HANDGUN EXPORTS TO THAILAND

REFERENCES: A. BANGKOK 21524; B. STATE 183656

1. AS THE EMBASSY IS AWARE FROM REF. B AND PREVIOUS, THE DEPARTMENT HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN CONCERNED BY THE MAGNITUDES AND IMPLICATIONS OF US PRODUCED HAND GUNS BEING IMPORTED BY THAILAND. THIS CONCERN STEMS FROM OUR APPRECIATION OF THE STILL BASICALLY FRAGILE THAI POLITICAL SITUATION AND THE GROWING PREVALENCE OF VIOLENCE IN THAILAND.

2. FOR THE PERIOD FY 72-74, THE AVERAGE THAI APPLICATIONS WERE FOR 20,000 PIECES ANNUALLY. FIGURES FOR FY 75 ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE, BUT INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE AMOUNT WILL BE APPRECIABLY HIGHER THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. THE TREND THIS FISCAL YEAR CONTINUES TO CLIMB.

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3. IN ADDITION TO MORE STRINGENT CONTROLS, AS INDICATED  
REF B., THE DEPARTMENT HAS CONSIDERED IMPOSITION OF  
ARBITRARY EXPORT QUOTAS IN FURTHERANCE OF ITS CHARTER  
TO CONTROL THE EXPORT OF MUNITIONS. THERE ARE NOW ON

HOLD ORDERS FOR OVER 6,000 INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS, OF WHICH  
THE SIPHYA ORDERS ARE PROBABLY PART.

4. BEFORE MUNITIONS CONTROL IS PREPARED TO RELEASE  
THESE ORDERS, IT WOULD LIKE ASSURANCES THAT THE RTG IS  
OFFICIALLY AWARE OF THIS TRAFFIC IN FIREARMS.

5. WE THEREFORE WOULD THINK IT APPROPRIATE FOR THE  
EMBASSY TO GO OVER THE GROUND MENTIONED ABOVE WITH THE  
THAI FOREIGN MINISTRY. UNDER SECRETARY PHAEN AND, IN  
VIEW OF COMMERCIAL CONSIDERATIONS, MFA ECONOMICS DEPART-  
MENT DIRECTOR GENERAL ASA SARASIN, MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE  
OFFICIALS TO APPROACH.

6. UPON RECEIVING ASSURANCES THAT THE RTG HAS NO OBJEC-  
TIONS TO THE MAGNITUDES OF THIS FLOW OF WEAPONS, THE  
DEPARTMENT WILL BE PREPARED TO APPROVE PENDING APPLICA-  
TIONS. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SMALL ARMS, EXPORTS, POLICIES, EXPORT CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE245118  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** FJTATU:MFG  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750358-0062  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Reference:** 75 BANGKOK 21524, 75 STATE 183656  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <29 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HANDGUN EXPORTS TO THAILAND  
**TAGS:** BEXP, MILI, TH  
**To:** BANGKOK  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006